



MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Shawn Sriver, Director, Office of Educator Licensing and Development

SUBJECT: Licenses for Applicants with Advanced Degrees

DATE: April 2, 2008

Indiana Code 20-28-5-15, as added by P.L. 75-2008 (Senate Enrolled Act 22), allows individuals who have an advanced degree and one (1) year of teaching experience in middle school, high school, or college to receive an initial practitioner license in middle school or high school subject areas designated by the State Board of Education as having an insufficient supply of licensed teachers.

In November 2007, the U.S. Department of Education approved subject areas submitted by Department staff as Indiana teacher shortage areas eligible for consideration for the Paul E. Douglas scholarship. The Department recommends that the State Board recognize the same shortage areas for the licenses for applicants with advanced degrees, with several additions. These subject areas include:

- Chemistry
- Earth/Space Science
- Life Science
- Physical Science
- Physics
- Any Science at the middle school-junior high
- Mathematics at the middle school-junior high and high school settings
- Any area in exceptional needs at the middle school-junior high setting including Mild Intervention, Intense Intervention, Blind and Low Vision, and Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- *All world languages at the middle school-junior high and high school settings
- English as a New Language

*Currently, Spanish is the only world language approved by the U.S. Department of Education. Because we anticipate a growth in the need for teachers in all world languages, we are recommending that all world languages be recognized as shortage areas for the purposes of this rule.

IC 20-28-5-15

Sec. 15. (a) Notwithstanding section 3(b)(6) of this chapter, the department shall grant an initial practitioner's license in a specific subject area to an applicant who:

- (1) has earned a postgraduate degree from a regionally accredited postsecondary educational institution in the subject area in which the applicant seeks to be licensed;
- (2) has at least one (1) academic year of experience teaching students in a middle school, high school, or college classroom setting; and
- (3) complies with sections 4, 9, and 12 of this chapter.

(b) An individual who receives an initial practitioner's license under this section may teach in the specific subject for which the individual is licensed only in:

- (1) high school; or
- (2) middle school;

if the subject area is designated by the state board as having an insufficient supply of licensed teachers.

(c) After receiving an initial practitioner's license under this section, an applicant who seeks to renew the applicant's initial practitioner's license or obtain a proficient practitioner's license must:

- (1) demonstrate that the applicant has:
 - (A) participated in cultural competency professional development activities;
 - (B) obtained training and information from a special education teacher concerning exceptional learners; and
 - (C) received:
 - (i) training or certification that complies; or
 - (ii) an exemption from compliance;with the standards set forth in section 3(c) of this chapter; and
- (2) meet the same requirements as other candidates.

As added by P.L.75-2008, SEC.2.